

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1964



Telephone Number  
Knighton 523

3, Wylcwm Street,  
KNIGHTON, Radnor.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

My report for the year 1964 is as follows:-

Home Population - The estimated mid-year population of the Urban District of Knighton was 1810.

Schedule of Premises at 31.12.1964

<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
Dwelling houses and flats (excluding those assessed with Shops)	585
Shops assessed with private dwelling accommodation .....	37
Other shops (including Banks in shopping areas) and Cafes .....	27
Offices (including Banks in shopping areas) .....	9
Public Houses (excluding Residential Hotels) .....	7
Hotels and Boarding Houses .....	1
Caravan Sites .....	3
Warehouses, Stores and Workshops .....	28
Garages (Commercial), Petrol Filling Stations, Car Parks .....	11
Lock-up Garages (separately assessed) .....	74
Markets .....	1
Factories, Mills and other premises of a similar nature .....	7
Gas, Electricity, Water, Transport Undertakings .....	6
Cinemas .....	1
Sports and Recreation Grounds, Golf Courses .....	4
Social Clubs, Community Centres and Public Halls .....	5
Public Libraries .....	1
Schools .....	2
Crown Occupations .....	7
Hospitals .....	1
Old People's Hostels .....	1
Town Halls and Municipal Offices .....	2
Sewage Disposal Works .....	1
Refuse Disposal Works .....	1
Hereditaments not otherwise classified .....	<u>14</u>
Total	<u>836</u>

Vital Statistics

Live Births - Males 13, Females 19, Total 32, Rate 19.6 per 1,000 population as adjusted by comparability factor 1.11.

Illegitimate Live Births - 2 male, 1 female.

Stillbirths - 0.

Total Live and Stillbirths - 32.

Infant Deaths - Under 1 year 0, under 4 weeks of age 0, under 1 week of age 0.

Infant Mortality Rates - Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births 0.  
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 0. Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0.

Neo-natal Mortality Rate - 0 deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births.





*With the Compliments  
of the Chairman*

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
CATHAYS PARK  
CARDIFF



Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate - 0 deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births.

Perinatal Mortality Rate - 0 stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.

Maternal Mortality (including abortion) - 0 deaths. Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths 0.

Deaths (excluding infant mortality) - Males 16, Females 28, Total 44 (excludes outward and includes inward transfers).

Death Rate - 18 per 1,000 population as adjusted by comparability factor 0.75.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	0	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	7
Coronary Disease, Angina	3	6
Other Heart Disease	1	0
Other Circulatory Disease	1	0
Influenza	0	1
Pneumonia	1	4
Bronchitis	1	1
Other Defined and Un-defined Diseases	1	2
All other Accidents	0	2
Total All Causes	16	28

Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases - Tuberculosis (respiratory) 0 males, 1 female. Measles (excluding Rubella) 2 males, 4 females. There were no cases of Whooping Cough, Puerperal Pyrexia, Dysentery, Scarlet Fever, Acute Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Meningococcal Infection, Acute Pneumonia, Smallpox, Acute Encephalitis, Enteric or Typhoid Fever, Paratyphoid Fevers, Erysipelas, Food Poisoning, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Anthrax, Chickenpox and German Measles.

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1951 - No action needed.

Mental Health Services - Administered by the Radnorshire County Council.

Home Health Services and Old People's Welfare - Administered by the Radnorshire County Council. Chiropody - A fortnightly service is given to persons over sixty years old. There is a Knighton Old People's Welfare Club.

Water Supply -

(a) The water supply of the area and of its several parts was satisfactory (i) in quality, and (ii) in quantity and, in spite of the long period of dry weather, the imposition of restrictions to consumption was not necessary. Flows recorded at the sewage works and checked with metered water supplies showed a fair reduction on the 1957 and 1961 figures, and were indicative of the effectiveness of efforts to reduce losses. The worn out condition of the existing water pump necessitated the installation of a submersible pump which has proved very successful. The public supply<sup>main</sup> was extended to the private development site, Farrington Lane.

(b) 1 bacteriological examination was made of the raw water and 7 of the water going into supply. The reports on the water going into supply were satisfactory. Tests for residual chlorine were made two or three times weekly, i.e. each time the chlorine apparatus was replenished.

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2016 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28849425>



The effectiveness and reliability of the chlorinating apparatus were greatly improved and the most careful vigilance was exercised. Bacteriological examination of a private source was made and the installation of a filter proved effective. No chemical analyses were made. All four main sources, namely, Pump House Springs, Jacketts Spring, Woodhouse Spring and Cwm Ifor Spring contain less than 0.1 parts per million of Fluorine. 1 p.p.m. of Fluorine is now added to the Elan Valley water by the Birmingham Corporation, from 1 to 2 million gallons per annum being used by Knighton U.D.C.

(c) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

(d) A sudden risk of contamination from brook water which had been grossly polluted was immediately met by discharging to waste and chlorinating and cleansing of pump wells, but it was afterwards clear that no brook water had entered the pump wells.

(e) Dwelling houses, flats and caravans in the district supplied from public water main direct 628 (population 1810), supplied from public water mains through standpipe 0, supplied privately to agricultural dwellings 26 (population 78).

Sewerage - The provision of additional labour at the sewage disposal works resulted in some improvement in the quality of the effluent. Arrangements for the disposal of the sludge were effective and caused no hindrance to the proper functioning of the purification process. The scheme for enlarging and improving the sewage purification works was under consideration by the Welsh Office, the contract drawings being now awaited. The scheme provides for increased settlement, increased storm water storage, increased filter area with alternating double filtration, more efficient and large humus tanks, sludge digestion and increased sludge drying.

The public sewer extension to serve private housing development in Farrington Lane was completed. The surveyor was instructed to prepare a scheme for extending the public sewer to Penybont Road to sewer existing properties and encourage development in that area.

Livestock Market - A hard standing to accommodate the extra cattle during autumn sales was made.

Knacker's Yard - The brook pollution referred to above arose at these premises; otherwise the management was satisfactory from the public health aspect, special precautions being taken to deal with fly nuisance.

Refuse Removal - Collection and incineration were carried out satisfactorily.

Sports and Recreation - Bryn-y-Castell recreation ground was provided with a new Ladies' convenience. A private bowling green was purchased by the Council for the use of the public.

Housing Improvement Grants - Nine building grants were made.

Shops - In no case was it necessary to take action under the Food Hygiene Regulations and Food Bylaws in connection with the cleanliness of equipment and persons, the handling, preparation and display of food. The thorough precautions taken by some shopkeepers to ensure good hygiene was most pleasing to observe.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 - The number of registered premises at end of year were 9 offices, 19 retail shops, 3 catering establishments open to the public and canteens. The number of registered premises receiving very detailed inspections were 6 offices, 9 retail shops and 1 catering establishment. All premises were inspected at least twice to ensure that all had first aid outfits and thermometers. In one premises a dangerous piece of machine was made safe and at another sanitary improvements were carried out.





Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations, 1959 - No action necessary.

Meat Inspection - No slaughterhouses, meat inspection at butchers' shops carried out. Refrigerators properly maintained and used with one exception where it was necessary to require the replacement of door fastenings.

Rodent Control - Service unchanged. No statutory notices were required. Measures appear to be effective.

Transport - The district, in common with others similarly situated, is affected by a steady decline in public transport services.

Industrial Development - The Government financed Trousers Factory in Knighton was employing 113 in December 1964.

Road Safety - Pending the introduction of no parking and one-way street restrictions no further action was taken. The County Council agreed to the employment of a crossing patrolman at the dangerous junction opposite the Primary School but, in spite of advertisements and considerable efforts by the school staff to recruit someone for the job, it was found impossible to fill it.

Car Parks - The Council laid a third track in the 'Swan Close' car park.

Home Safety - As a result of the discovery of defects in the fitting of fixtures and in the safety of electrical wiring installation in new Council Houses the Council took steps to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence of such dangers. In future electrical installations are only to be done by the Electricity Board.

Street Lighting - A scheme comprising an additional 8 Group A lighting points was completed. Two additional lighting points were installed in the Cwm.

Dangerous Walls and Buildings - A dangerous chimney stack adjacent to the public highway was rendered safe.

New Dwellings - Ten private dwellings and six council houses were erected.

Demolition and Closing Orders - One time-and-place notice was served, but the Council accepted the owner's undertaking to bring the cottage up to a satisfactory standard. Six Council bungalows were demolished.

Hospital - The services available at the hospital administered by the Brecon and Radnor Hospital Management Committee of the Welsh Hospital Board were as described in last year's report. There were no major developments in the efforts to preserve these hospital services in Knighton. The maternity and labour wards were again disinfected on request.

Common Lodging Houses - None.

Litter - The litter bins placed in various parts of the town were well used, and the town streets were kept clean and tidy.



Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of	
			Written notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	17	102	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	19	114	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII Of the Act - Outwork - Sections 133 and 134 - N I L

Yours obediently,  
(Signed) B.C. DAVIES, B.M. B.Ch., D.R.C.O.G.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

